



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Confirmation No.: 3293

Fumiaki MARUYAMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2814

Application No.: 09/856,139

Examiner: A. Mai

Filed: May 29, 2001

Attorney Docket. No.: 107242-00017

For: WAFER AND EPITAXIAL WAFER, AND MANUFACTURING PROCESSES
THEREFOR

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: October 16, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 16, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group V, claims 67-77, directed to apparatus and method of making a semiconductor wafer having a common special technical feature: an air conditioner having boron-less filter and a boron adsorbing filter; and one or more of wafer treatment apparatus each having boron-less filter, wherein an atmosphere gas is recycled between the air conditioner, the clean room and the wafer treatment apparatus.

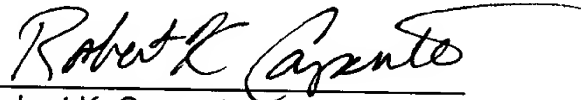
Applicants take this opportunity to note that during a October 7, 2003, telephone conference with Applicants' undersigned representative, the Examiner indicated that claims 75-77 belong with elected Group V.

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims.

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It is believed that extensions of time are not required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 107242-00017.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert K. Carpenter", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert K. Carpenter
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